

REMARKS

All claims stand rejected under 35 USC 102 or 35 USC 103 over Altberg et al as the primary reference.

The subject matter defined in the claims of this application overcomes problems which are specific to when a program is loaded into the RAM of a computer system. The claimed subject matter overcomes problems which can occur when different versions of shared sub-routines (DLLs) are loaded into the RAM of a computer and cause conflicts in programs which share sub-routines.

The method defined in claim 43, for example, operates while a program is running, that is to say while the program is present in the RAM of a computer system. While the program is present in the RAM, a required sub-routine which is already available within the computer system is loaded into the RAM of the computer system for use by the program. If the required sub-routine is not already available within the computer system then, as stated in claim 43, an encrypted version of the required sub-routine is decrypted by a decryption routine and loaded into the RAM of the computer system for use by the program.

The system disclosed in Altberg differs from the subject matter of claim 43 because the system of Altberg does not operate at run-time while a program and its required sub-routines are present in RAM. In contrast to the subject matter of claim 43, the system of Altberg incorporates an installer module which checks a computer system to see whether files required by an application are present. If the required files are not present, then the installer module installs the missing files in predetermined locations which are expected by the application so that the required files are called by the program in a correct manner when the program is executed. The system of Altberg does not load the required files into the RAM of the computer system, but instead installs the files elsewhere in the computer system so that the program can call the required files and load the files into the RAM of the computer system for execution when the program is eventually executed. Column 6, lines 27 -33 of Altberg describes how the installer module checks hard disk availability to determine whether there is enough space to install the required files necessary for the application, and checks the available RAM in the computer system to determine if there is enough space to execute the application using the missing required file. This teaches that the

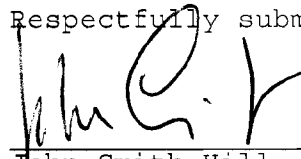
installer module is operating before execution of the application (i.e. before the application is loaded into the RAM of the computer system) because all of the steps taken by the installer module are taken to ensure that the computer system is ready for when the application is eventually loaded into the RAM along with the other required files for execution.

Altberg requires the computer system to restart after missing required files are restored to the required locations within a computer system (column 8, lines 26-28). The restarting of the system clears the RAM of the computer system so that any old versions of shared sub-routines which are installed in the RAM of the computer system are removed. This is how the system of Altberg tackles the problem of preventing a conflict due to different versions of sub-routines being installed in the RAM of the computer system. While restarting the system addresses the problem, any restart is extremely inconvenient for the user of the system. The method of claim 43 does not require a restart of the computer system to avoid conflicting version of shared sub-routines being present in the RAM of the computer because the claimed method places the correct required sub-routines in the RAM of the computer at run-time, that is to say when the program is present in the RAM of the computer.

The arguments presented above in support of claim 43 are applicable also to the other independent claims.

In view of the foregoing, applicant submits that the independent claims 27, 36, 37, 43 and 49 are patentable. It follows that the dependent claims also are patentable.

Respectfully submitted,



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